

### **Amendments to the Specification**

Please delete the paragraph on page 9, lines 1 – 21, and replace with the following amended full paragraph (consistent with suggestions made the examiner):

Depending upon requisite strength and overall size of the apparatus, while not shown, one can appreciate that additional elongated subassemblies may be interconnected within an apparatus 10, 200 joined with additional hinge-fittings. For example, a first elongated subassembly (*e.g.*, 16A – 16D) may be interconnected with a second elongated subassembly (such as those respectively labeled 18A – 18D) which is, in turn, interconnected with a third subassembly (structured and interconnected, once again, in a manner as those respectively depicted and labeled, *e.g.*, 18A – 18D), and so on, such that the second elongated subassembly is interposed between the first and third. The added subassembly may, similar to the first and third subassemblies, be comprised of more than one telescoping section, or only one section. As shown throughout, the telescoping tubular sections of the top-half elongated subassembly (16A – 16D as well as 216A – 216B in FIGs. 12 and 13) may be sized for interchangeability with the telescoping tubular sections of the second, and other, elongated subassemblies of a leg assembly. While the length of interchangeable tubular sections need not be the same (*e.g.*, see FIGs. 12 and 13), for convenience and maximizing design flexibility and component interchangeability, the cross-sectional shape/peripheral dimension(s) of interconnecting tubular sections are preferably similar. For example, as one will appreciate, a set of telescoping tubular sections of one elongated subassembly (*e.g.*, 16A – 16D) that have a cross-section shaped in the form of a square, rectangle, triangle, circle, oblong, or an irregular polygon (including shapes comprising any combination of straight edges and/or curvilinear sections) may be interchangeable with a set of telescoping tubular sections of any other of the elongated subassemblies, if of the same shape and compatible cross-sectional dimensions.